



MARSHFIELD

Plymouth County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Marshfield is located in Southeastern Massachusetts in Plymouth County. A coastal community 30 miles from Boston, Marshfield has a yearly population of about 21,000 people which grows to about 40,000 in the summer months. The town's rich history of over 350 years dates back to the pre-revolutionary war era and is best known as the birthplace and home of Daniel Webster.

Marshfield is 31.70 square miles in area, and contains 28.50 square miles of land and 3.25 square miles of water. The town has a traditional New England government structure with a three-member board of selectmen, an administrator and an open town meeting. Among the basic services provided to residents are public safety, schools, water and sewer, trash removal, recreation, public library and senior center. The town's water and sewer and trash operations are managed through enterprise funds.

Marshfield is active throughout the year with events such as the Marshfield Fair, which attracts visitors from all over the State. The community takes pride in the education it offers its young people, in its sports programs and in its unique environmental beauty both on the coast and inland.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by the Atlantic Ocean on the east, Duxbury on the south and southeast, Pembroke and Norwell on the west, and Scituate on the north. Marshfield is 18 miles east of Brockton; 29 miles south of Boston; 48 miles northeast of Providence, Rhode Island; and 225 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 31.74 sq. miles

Land Area: 28.46 sq. miles

Population: 21,531

Density: 757 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Plymouth Station)

Normal temperature in January.....26.5°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.0°F

Normal annual precipitation.....48.8"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Duxbury, Scituate, Cohasset, Hanover

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (781) 834-5540

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Administrator

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1640

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	14,020		
Democrats	4,427	31.6	%
Republicans	2,041	14.6	%
Other parties	9	0.1	%
Unenrolled Voters	7,543	53.8	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Marshfield town, Plymouth County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	24,324	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	24,324	100.0
Male.....	11,869	48.8	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	163	0.7
Female.....	12,455	51.2	Mexican.....	90	0.1
Under 5 years.....	1,924	7.9	Puerto Rican.....	54	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	1,886	7.8	Cuban.....	5	-
10 to 14 years.....	1,841	7.6	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	74	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	1,497	6.2	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	24,161	99.3
20 to 24 years.....	908	3.7	White alone.....	23,660	97.2
25 to 34 years.....	3,014	12.4	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	4,574	18.8	Total population.....	24,324	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	4,000	16.4	In households.....	24,274	99.8
55 to 59 years.....	1,432	5.9	Householder.....	8,905	36.6
60 to 64 years.....	948	3.9	Spouse.....	5,419	22.3
65 to 74 years.....	1,344	5.5	Child.....	8,259	34.0
75 to 84 years.....	740	3.0	Own child under 18 years.....	6,302	25.9
85 years and over.....	216	0.9	Other relatives.....	835	3.4
Median age (years).....	37.4	(X)	Under 18 years.....	275	1.1
18 years and over.....	17,660	72.6	Nonrelatives.....	856	3.5
Male.....	8,442	34.7	Unmarried partner.....	391	1.6
Female.....	9,218	37.9	In group quarters.....	50	0.2
21 years and over.....	17,006	69.9	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	2,831	11.6	Noninstitutionalized population.....	50	0.2
65 years and over.....	2,300	9.5	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	978	4.0	Total households.....	8,905	100.0
Female.....	1,322	5.4	Family households (families).....	6,600	74.1
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	3,334	37.4
One race.....	24,139	99.2	Married-couple family.....	5,419	60.9
White.....	23,761	97.7	With own children under 18 years.....	2,734	30.7
Black or African American.....	131	0.5	Female householder, no husband present.....	898	10.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	26	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	472	5.3
Asian.....	91	0.4	Nonfamily households.....	2,305	25.9
Asian Indian.....	9	-	Householder living alone.....	1,861	20.9
Chinese.....	26	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	644	7.2
Filipino.....	3	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	3,523	39.6
Japanese.....	10	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	1,745	19.6
Korean.....	25	0.1	Average household size.....	2.73	(X)
Vietnamese.....	7	-	Average family size.....	3.20	(X)
Other Asian ¹	11	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	4	-	Total housing units.....	9,954	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	8,905	89.5
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	2	-	Vacant housing units.....	1,049	10.5
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	2	-	occasional use.....	837	8.4
Some other race.....	126	0.5	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.5	(X)
Two or more races.....	185	0.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	4.7	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races:³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	8,905	100.0
White.....	23,911	98.3	Owner-occupied housing units.....	7,233	81.2
Black or African American.....	201	0.8	Renter-occupied housing units.....	1,672	18.8
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	83	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.87	(X)
Asian.....	131	0.5	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.09	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	21	0.1			
Some other race.....	192	0.8			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	113
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	19
Federal (Section 8):	0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Marshfield is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 3, the Southeast Expressway connecting Boston to the Cape, and State Route 139.

Rail

Commuter rail service in Marshfield is currently under consideration. MBTA subway service is available on the Red Line from Braintree and Quincy. There is no freight rail service, but the network of intermodal facilities serving eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island is easily accessible.

Bus

Marshfield is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). The Plymouth and Brockton Street Railway Company provides limited commuter bus service to Boston, Plymouth, and Braintree Station.

Other

The Marshfield Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility located 2 mi E of town, has a 2,999' x 75' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision. Boston Harbor Commuter Service and Mass Bay Lines provide commuter boat service from nearby Hingham Rowes Wharf in Boston.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.